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Archive Number 20101118.4180

Published Date 18-NOV-2010

Subject PRO/AH> Avian influenza (52): world update, FAO

AVIAN INFLUENZA (52): WORLD UPDATE, FAO

A ProMED-mail post

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International Society for Infectious Diseases

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Date: Tue 16 Nov 2010

Source: FAOAIDEnews, Animal Influenza Disease Emergency Situation
Update 71 [summ., edited]

[<http://www.fao.org/avianflu/en/index.html>](http://www.fao.org/avianflu/en/index.html)

At a glance: the latest HPAI outbreaks for the period 1-31 Oct 2010

Note: AIDEnews publishes reports of confirmed HPAI cases using the
following sources: OIE, European Commission, FAO and national
governments.

Africa

Egypt

A total of 13 H5 HPAI positive cases were reported in 7 governorates
during 1-31 Oct 2010: Alexandria (1), Beni Suef (2), Dakahlia (3),
Fayoum (4), Gharbia (3), Kafr el sheikh (3), Luxor (1), Menoufia (4),
Qualioubia (1) Qina (2), Sharkia (1), Sixth of October (1)
Governorates. (The number of outbreaks in the governorate is in
brackets).

All of the outbreaks were in household poultry, only one household
had vaccination history. A total of 1433 birds in 26 outbreaks were
culled.

Asia

Indonesia

The Participatory Disease Surveillance & Response (PDSR) programme
through 33 Local Disease Control Centres covers 71 249 villages in 84
percent of Indonesia's 448 districts and municipalities in 29 of its
33 provinces. During September 2010, PDSR conducted surveillance in
1386 villages (1.9 percent). The overall HPAI incidence was 0.7
infected villages per 1000 villages under surveillance.

Japan

The Ministry of Environment announced that an H5N1 AI virus was found
through the surveillance of wild duck dropping conducted by the
Hokkaido University. The virus was isolated from 2 of the 183 samples
taken on 14 Oct 2010 at Lake Onuma, Wakkanai City (E141.7593,

N45.3788, the centre of the lake not the sampling site). Hokkaido Prefecture checked farm within 10 km/6.2 mi (1 farm) and no abnormality found. There is no death of wild birds found in the Onuma area.

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<http://www.fao.org/ag/againfo/home/en/index.htm>

[The FAOAIDEnews issue 71 above, to become available online soon at <http://www.fao.org/avianflu/en/index.html> (go to "Newsletters and brochures"), includes the following items:

1. Value chain analysis as a tool for avian influenza control,
2. AI research by FAO and partners focused on Qinghai Lake [see excerpt further],
3. At a Glance (copied above),
4. Summary of confirmed HPAI outbreaks (list of countries infected since 2003, pertaining to the dates of 1st and latest outbreaks, animals infected to date, and human cases/death to date).

Item 4 lists 11 countries in Africa, 19 in Asia, 7 in the Near East, and 26 in Europe. 10 of the affected European countries experienced H5N1 cases in wild birds only.

The countries which have reported the highest number of human cases/mortalities are: Indonesia (168/139), Viet Nam (119/59), Egypt (112/36), China (39/26), and Thailand (25/17).

Interesting observations on the epidemiology of HPAI H5N1 are to be found in item 2; reflected in the following excerpt.

"In an effort to pinpoint the role that wild birds play in transboundary disease transmission along major migratory flyways, a team led by FAO and the US Geological Survey (USGS) has to date mounted GPS transmitters on more than 525 waterfowl from 24 species in 11 countries to track their migration by satellite. This and other investigations began after H5N1 HPAI swept the region in 2005 and beyond.

"Team researchers now know that the majority of bar-headed geese tagged at Qinghai Lake spend their winters in the Lhasa region of Tibet or further south in India. In these wintering grounds, wild birds have exposure to domestic poultry and potentially, farmed wild birds; and since H5N1 HPAI outbreaks have been reported here, this could be an indication of a dissemination pathway for the virus to move among wildfowl and captive birds, eventually being carried to places along migration routes.

"If this is so, wild waterfowl on the eastern portion of the Central Asian Flyway may in fact be helping spread H5N1 HPAI into Mongolia each spring as they move across the Qinghai-Tibetan plateau to the north and east. Most interesting is that this repeatable pattern of wild bird outbreaks at the northern end of their migration pathway each spring does not appear to be occurring in other major flyways, thus demonstrating the complexity surrounding the role of wild birds in the disease epidemiology."

AIDEnews, published monthly by FAO's ECTAD (Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases), is commendable reading. - Mod.AS]

[see also:

Avian influenza (47): world update, FAO [20101012.3707](#)
Avian influenza (44): world update, FAO [20100912.3297](#)
Avian influenza (42): world update, FAO [20100806.2659](#)
Avian influenza (38): world update, FAO [20100618.2054](#)
Avian influenza (32): world update, FAO [20100519.1651](#)
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